REMARKS

Applicant notes with appreciation that in the Office Action dated May 6, 2005, the Examiner indicated claims 1-10, 19 and 20 are allowed and that claims 13, 14 and 18 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Claims 11, 12 and 15-17 were rejected under § 102(b) as being anticipated by Finona et al. and claims 11, 12, 16 and 17 were rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crowson et al.

Claims 11-18 have been canceled and new claims 21-29 have been added.

New claim 21 is essentially the same as original claim 11, rewritten in independent form, omitting only the limitation that the extension is substantially cylindrical (which limitation now appears in new claim 22. Therefore applicant submits that new claim 21 is allowable, as indicated by the Examiner with respect to original claim 13. Dependent claims 22 and 23 are therefore allowable as well.

New claim 24 is original claim 18 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of original base claim 11 and original claim 18. Therefore applicant submits that new claim 24 is allowable as indicated by the Examiner with respect to original claim 18. Claims 25 - 29 depend from claim 24, and are therefore allowable as well.

If any questions or open issues remain, applicant requests that a telephone call to applicant's attorney, listed below, be made to resolve such issues quickly.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this document and any being referred to as attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop - Missing Parts, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

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